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Planning and Development Committee  
Room 2100, Legislative Office Building  
Hartford, CT 06106

**Opposition to S.B.1045: An Act Concerning Municipal Plans of Conservation and Development**

Dear Senators and Representatives,

My name is Frank C. DeFelice, and I currently serve as a Planning & Zoning Commissioner and Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commissioner in the Town of Durham, Connecticut; and as Chairman of the Regional Planning Committee of the Lower Connecticut River Valley Council of Governments (RiverCOG). I am writing in **opposition** to S.B. 1045 entitled "*An Act Concerning Municipal Plans of Conservation and Development*".

Section 3 (g) of *S.B 1045: An Act Concerning Municipal Plans of Conservation and Development* requires towns and cities to designate existing and planned sewer service areas. These are not an unreasonable requirements, as this data is generally readily accessible.

What is unreasonable is the requirement to designate **sewer avoidance areas**. This requirement may seem innocuous; however, your committee should consider the process and costs associated with fulfilling such a requirement. Criteria would have to be developed for identifying such areas; so as to be fair to all property owners. More mature developments, where septic system failures and water well contamination are commonplace, might not be able to take advantage of connecting to a nearby sewer, if they happen to be in or adjacent to a designated "sewer avoidance area". This would leave homes in these areas with few, if any, options for maintaining sanitary water sources.

Lastly, the expanded requirements of S.B.1045 would result in financial hardships for municipalities (such as mine) which are in the process of updating their Plans of Conservation and & Development. I urge your committee to **oppose** S.B.1045.

Respectfully,

*Frank C. DeFelice*